

LOUISA F. FRANCE COLLECTION

Collection Number: MSS 152

Size: 10 boxes

Special Collections and University Archives

Jean and Alexander Heard Library

Vanderbilt University

Nashville, Tennessee

Louisa F. France Collection
MSS 152
Processed January 27, 2003

The Louisa F. France Collection documents over six decades of musical performances staged in the United States and Europe. Measuring 4.2 linear feet, the collection is organized chronologically and represents a wide spectrum of classical performers and musical styles. The earliest programs date back to 1920s performances by Sergey Rachmanioff (1873-1943) and Jascha Heifetz (1901-87) at the Lyric Theatre in Baltimore, Maryland. Other key performance venues in the United States represented in the collection include the Metropolitan Opera House, Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall in New York City as well as the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

Of special interest to researchers are the pre-World War II programs from Vienna and Salzburg, Austria; Munich, Dresden and Bayreuth, Germany; and Paris, France in the months leading up to the Nazi occupation. There are also several post-war items from London, England; Cremona, Italy; Brussels, Belgium; Innsbrook, Austria; Gottingen and Nurnberg, Germany.

In the late 1940s, Ms. France moved to Nashville with her husband, Dr. Richard France (Vanderbilt University Medical School Faculty 1948-85), where she and Dr. France patronized the local performance art scene. Items representing music programs staged at various churches in Nashville as well as those presented by George Peabody College for Teachers, Fisk University, Blair School of Music and the Nashville Symphony all are included in this collection.

Also included in the collection is small cache of booklets on English and European luthiers, composers and historic sites as well as souvenir programs for the Vienna Boys Choir, Leopold Stokowski and the All-American youth Orchestra, and Robert Shaw's Choral Ensemble. The items contained herein complement a collection of commemorative coins from Austria. Minted from 1929 – 1937, the series honors composers and artists including Franz Schubert, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Franz Joseph Hayden. Although some items are seventy years old, the overall condition of the materials in the collection is stable and good.

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Box 1: 1922 – May 1930

Programs include performances by and/or at the following venues:

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Feodor Chaliapin
The Chicago Opera
Giuseppe DeLuca
Amelita Galli-Curci
The German Grand Opera Company [Baltimore, MD]
Harrisburg [PA] Symphony Orchestra
Jascha Heifetz
Vladimir Horowitz
The Johns Hopkins Orchestra
Juilliard String Quartet
La Argentina
Hans Kindler
Paul Kochanski
Fritz Kreisler
Kreutzbert & Georgi
London String Quartet
Giovanni Martinelli
Yehudi Menuhin
Metropolitan Opera [NY]
Grace Moore
Mozart Festival [Harrisburg, PA]
New York Philharmonic (Arturo Toscanini conducting)
Ignace Jan Paderewski
The Philadelphia Orchestra
Rosa Ponselle
Peabody Conservatory of Music [Baltimore, MD]
Shanghai Municipal Orchestra
Sergey Rachmaninoff
Alberto Salvi
Mme. Schumann-Heink
John Philip Sousa
Lawrence Tibbett
and others

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Box 2: June 1930 – 1935

Programs include performances by and/or at the following venues:

Bach Festival [Bethlehem, PA]
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (with George Siemomn conducting)
Boston Symphony Orchestra (directed by Dr. Serge Koussevitzky)
Budapest String Quartet
Shura Cherkassky [Constitution Hall, Washington, DC]
Claire Clairbert
Compinsky Trio
Don Cossack Chorus
D'oyly Carte Opera Company
German Grand Opera Company
Harrisburg [PA] Symphony Orchestra
Fritz Kreisler
Kreutzbert & Georgi
Yehudi Menuhin
Mercersburg Academy [PA] Carillon Group
Metropolitan Opera Company [NY]
Monte Carlo Ballet Russe
Musical Arts Quartet
National Symphony Orchestra (conducted by Hans Kindler)
New York Philharmonic [Arturo Toscanini with guest
conductor Sir Thomas Beecham]
Paderewski
Peabody Conservatory of Music [Baltimore, MD]
Philadelphia [PA] Orchestra (conducted by Leopold Stokowski with guest
appearance by Vladimir Horowitz)
Sergey Rachmaninoff
Ruggiero Ricci
Roth Quartet
Carlos Salzedo
San Carlo Grand Opera
Ted Shawn and his Ensemble of Men Dancers
Igor Stravinsky and Samuel Dushkin
Joseph Szigeti
and others

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Box 3: 1936 – 1937

Programs include performances by and/or at the following venues:

Ballet Russe of Monte Carlo
Baltimore String Symphony
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (including Concert for Young People)
Paul Bernard and Gardner Jencks
Shura Cherkassky
Coolidge Quartet
Curtis String Quartet
Harrisburg [PA] Symphony Orchestra
Fritz Kreisler
Library of Congress Festival of Chamber Music
Tribute Concert to Charles Martin Loeffler (presented by the Library
of Congress, Washington, DC)
Marcel Maas
Metropolitan Opera Company Musical Arts Quartet
National Symphony
The Philadelphia Orchestra
Pro Arte String Quartet
Savoy Company
Joseph Szigeti
Trio Italiano

Also included in this box are souvenir postcards and brochures from Cremona, Italy; bicentennial commemorative brochures on Antonio Stradivari; Opern Theatre, Konzerthaus-Quartett, Musica Viva Orchester, Weissgarber Quartet, Marian Anderson, Emil von Sauer, Helen Teschner Tas, Rose-Quartett; Germany.

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Box 4: 1938 – 1940

Programs include performances at venues in Europe including:

Opern Theater [Berlin]
Gefellfchaft der Musikfreunde [Vienna]
Burg Theater [Germany]
Budapest [Hungary]
Prague [Czechoslovakia]
Paris [France]
Academie Nationale de Musique et de Danse
Theatre National De L'Opera Comique
Festival [Igor] Stravinsky, [Paris]
Salzburg [Austria] Festspiele
Dresden [Germany] Opernhaus
Festival Bayreuth [Munich]
Orchestre de la Societe Philharmonique de Paris
[Hector] Berlioz
14th Haslemere Festival of Ancient Music [Surrey, England]
Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo with the London Symphony Orchestra and
the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Opera House [London]
Pamphlet: *The Work and Ideas of Arnold Dolmetsch - Dolmetsch and his
Instruments*

U.S. programs include performances by and/or at the following venues:

All-American Youth Orchestra (conducted by Leopold Stokowski)
Baltimore Civic Opera Company
Belgian Piano String Quartet
Berkshire Symphony Festival, Tanglewood, MA (includes special Allied Relief
Fund Benefit for British Aid)
Virgil Fox
Harrisburg [PA] Symphony Orchestra
Kolisch Quartet
Library of Congress Ninth Festival of Chamber Music
Metropolitan Opera Company, New York
The National Symphony Orchestra at Baltimore
New Jersey Symphony Orchestra
Philharmonic Symphony Society of New York
The Town Hall, New York (cover features a photo of the Trapp Family Choir)

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Box 5: 1941 – 1951

Programs include performances by and/or at the following venues:

The American Ballad Singers
The Bach Choir
Bethlehem, [PA] Bach Festival
Ballet Russe
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
Bela Bartok and Ditta Pasztory (Mrs. Bela Bartok)
Bennington [VT] Festival
Berkshire Symphonic Festival [Tanglewood, MA]
Budapest String Quartet
Carnegie Hall Golden Anniversary commemorative program
Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
Coolidge Quartet
Paul Drape and Larry Adler, Ryman Auditorium, Nashville, TN
Ecole Francaise de Middlebury
Fisk Jubilee Singers
Virgil Fox (sponsored by the Fisk University Concert Series)
Joseph Fuchs
George Peabody College for Teachers Concert Series (separately and with the
University of the South)
Harrisburg [PA] Symphony Orchestra
Homewood Quartet
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra (Fabien Sevitzy, conductor)
Kolisch String Quartet
Kungsholm Miniature Grand Opera Theatre of Chicago commemorative program
La Scala Opera Company
London String Quartet
Robert McDowell
The Nashville Symphony (William Strickland, conductor)
National Symphony Orchestra (Hans Kindler, Conductor), Washington, DC
The Philadelphia Orchestra
Orchestra of the New Friends of Music (conducted by Fritz Stiedry)
Roth Quartet [Brigham Young University, Salt Lake City, Utah]
Saint Louis Sinfonietta
The Town Hall [NYC]
Ward-Belmont Conservatory of Music
Leonard Warren
Yale Glee Club
Vermont Sesquicentennial Program, 1941

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Box 6: 1952 – 1964

Programs include performances by and/or at the following venues:

Ballet Theatre Foundation
Beaux Arts Trio of New York
Mary Louise Boehm
Brevard [PA] Music Center
Budapest String Quartet
The Cathedral Singers
Chicago Symphony String Quartet
Chicago Symphony Orchestra (Louis Lane, Guest Conductor)
Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
Gregory Colson
 Danish National Orchestra
Festival Quartet
Don Cossack Chorus and Dancers
Clifford Curzon
Ernst Von Dohnanyi
First Presbyterian Carillon Dedication Concert (Nashville, TN)
The Fisk Jubilee Singers
The Fisk University Choir
Fisk University 25th, 27th and 34th Annual Festival of Music and Art
Virgil Fox
Nicola Gedda
Johana Harris
Kees Kooper
Robert McDowell
Josef Marais and Miranda
Nashville Symphony Orchestra (with Guy Taylor conducting)
Nashville Symphony String Quartet
New Music String Quartet
New York String Sextet
Peabody Demonstration School Recital Series
Philadelphia [PA] Orchestra
Pittsburgh [PA] Symphony Orchestra
Michael Rabin
Luisa Ribacchi and Guido Cantelli at Carnegie Hall (NYC)
Rise Stevens
Helen Traubel
Robert Shaw Chorale and Orchestra
St. Louis Municipal Opera

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Box 6: 1952 – 1964 (*continued*)

United States Air Force Band
University of the South Choir
Vienna Boys Choir
Walden String Quartet
Bruno Walter at Carnegie Hall (NYC)

Playbills, publications and miscellaneous items include:

“Singin’ Billy,” 1952 and 1955 productions by Peabody College and
Vanderbilt Music Dept.
“St. Louis Woman,” “Cosi Fan Tutte” and “Member of the Wedding,”
presented by the Circle Players
“Sunny Side Up” presented by the Princeton Triangle Club
“Bartleby,” presented by the Oberlin [OH] College Conservatory of Music
Poetry reading of works by R. P. Warren, M. Moore, A. Tate,
D. Davidson, J. C. Ransom
Bravo Magazine (Vol I, No. 2; Vol. II, No. 1; Vol. II, No. 3)
95th Annual Convention for Tennessee Education Association

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Box 7: 1965 – 1969

Programs include performances by and/or at the following venues:

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (Brian Priestman, and Leopold Stokowski,
Conductors)
Beaux Arts String Quartet
Beaux Arts Trio of New York
Berliner Camerata Musicale
Boston Symphony Orchestra [Berkshire Festival at Tanglewood, MA]
Cadet Glee Club (Virginia Military Institute at Hollins College
and Robert E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church)
Chamber Symphony of Philadelphia
Christ Church Parish (Nashville)
Eastman Quartet
George Goodman (at Fisk University)
Guarneri String Quartet
Hampden-Sydney College Glee Club
Hollins College Student Recital and “A Program of Theatre Dance” (1967 and
1968)
Hungarian Quartet
Julliard String Quartet
Le Danseurs Africains (first U. S. performance)
Lenox String Quartet
Lucktenberg Duo
The Little Symphony of Nashville presents “An Evening of the Avant-Garde
Arts”
Nashville String Quartet
Nashville Symphony Orchestra (Willis Page, conductor; Thor Johnson,
Music Director and Conductor)
Nashville Youth Symphony
New York Philharmonic (with Andre Kostelanetz conducting)
New York Woodwind Quintet
George Peabody College School of Music Recital Series
George Peabody College for Teachers Recital Series
Philadelphia Orchestra
The Romeros
St. George’s Episcopal Church Fourth Sunday Music Series
St. Louis Orchestra
Grete Sultan and Barbara Wieman (Town Hall, NYC)

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Box 7: 1965 – 1969 (*continued*)

Charles Treger (Carnegie Hall, NYC)
University of North Carolina Choir
Vanderbilt University Center Choral Union and Center Orchestra
Washington Square Chorus and Orchestra (NYU)

Playbills, publications and miscellaneous items include:

“An Evening of One-Act Plays” by Tennessee Williams and Samuel
Beckett presented by Vanderbilt University Theatre
“Kaleidoscope '67” presented by the Circle Players
“The Threepenny Opera” presented by Peabody School of Music

Nashville Symphony Newsletter, Vol. XIII, No. 5; March 1968
Program for the 93rd Commencement Exercises of Meharry Medical College
23rd Composers' Conference and Chamber Music Center at Bennington College
[VT]
Guide for Cheekwood's Christmas “Trees of Many Lands” exhibit
Hollins College Parents' Day [Roanoke, VA] Materials
Peabody College School of Music Seminar in Piano Teaching
schedule and program
Signe Quale (Memphis State University, University of the South and
First Unitarian Church, Nashville)

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Box 8: 1970 – 1975

Programs include performances by and/or at the following venues:

Avante Garde III
Bamberg Symphony Orchestra
Blair Academy of Music Student Recital Series
Blair String Quartet
Candler Choraliers
Cheekwood Chamber Music Series
Chicago Symphony String Quartet
Christ Church Parish Concert Series (Nashville)
Van Cliburn
Collegiate Chorale
Catherine Crozier
Dvorak String Quartet
Eastman Brass Quintet
First Presbyterian Church
The Fisk University Choir
George Peabody College School of Music Series (various student performers)
Guarneri String Quartet
I Solisti Veneti
Joint University Choir (GPC)
Julliard String Quartet
Mark Kaplan and Samuel Sanders
King College Symphonic Choir
The King's Singers
Kurrende Student Choir of Berlin (US tour 1972)
London Symphony Orchestra (at Carnegie Hall with Andre Previn conducting)
Marlboro Trio
Morehouse College Glee Club
Nashville Baroque and Classical Society Concert Series
Nashville Chamber Brass Society
Nashville Chamber Singers
Nashville Symphony Orchestra
Nashville University Center Council
New London Ballet with Guest Artist [Dame] Margot Fonteyn
New York Philharmonic (Lincoln Center)
Jean-Pierre Rampal and Robert Veyron-Lacroix
Scarritt College Chapel Choir and the Scarritt Singers
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Box 8: 1970 – 1975 (continued)

Trombone Ensemble of the University of Oklahoma
University of Louisville Brass Quintet
Warsaw String Quartet

Playbills, publications and miscellaneous items include:

“Die Fledermaus” performed by the Turnau Opera Players
“Der Freischutz” presented by The Hartford [MD] Opera Theatre
“H.M.S. Pinafore” presented by the Theatre Nashville Playhouse
“Everyman” performed by Anthony Quayle and the Clarence
Brown Scholar’s Troupe
World of Gilbert & Sullivan presented by [Nashville] Community
Concert Association

Tribute Concert & Memorial Dinner in Recognition of John Wesley Work, III
sponsored by Nashville Chapter of Links
Seminar in Piano Teaching (GPC)

Programs and other materials from European venues:

Der Widerspenstigen Zähmung Ballet nach Shakespeare von John Cranko
“Carmen” at the Staatsoper
“Cinderella” at Komische Oper, Berlin
“Die Liebe Zu Zrei Orangen” at Komische Oper, Berlin
“Hansel und Gretel,” Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin
“Tosca” at the Staatsoper
Berliner Barock Orchester
Deutsche Oper Berlin
James Galway, Amerika Haus Berlin
Igor Kipnis, Amerika Haus Berlin
Salzburg Mozart Festival (includes performances of “Don
Giovanni,” “Die Zauberflote,” “Macbeth”)
Symphonisches Orchester Berlin
Opern Journal, Nos. 2, 3, and 4 Oct., Nov. & Dec. 1970

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Box 9: 1976 – 1985

Programs include performances by and/or at the following venues:

American String Quartet
Annapolis Brass Quintet
Arioso Woodwind Quintet
Bach Aria Group (Fisk University Concert Series)
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
Blair Academy of Music
Blair Chamber Players
The Centennial Club
Christ Church Parish
Christ Episcopal Church
First Presbyterian Church
Fu Shing Chinese Opera Troupe (American Tour)
The Gurdjieff Movements
Illinois Kabuki Theatre with Shozo Sato
Kentucky Wesleyan Singers
The Mozarteum Quartet Salzburg, Tennessee Performing
Arts Center, Nashville
Nashville Baroque and Classical Society Series
Nashville Symphony Orchestra (John Nelson, Music Advisor
and Michael Charry Music Director and Conductor)
Jessye Norman with the New York Philharmonic, Lincoln Center
Pablo Casals Trio
Peabody Chamber Trio
The National Symphony Orchestra at Kennedy Center, Washington, DC
New Hampshire Music Festival (w/ Thomas Nee conducting)
New York Philharmonic at Lincoln Center
Oberlin Baroque Ensemble
The Pennsylvania Ballet
The Piedmont Chamber Orchestra
The Philadelphia Orchestra at Jackson Hall, Tennessee Performing
Arts Center, Nashville
Marek Piskunov and Alexander Piskunov
Zina Schiff (Fisk University Concert Series)
Peter Serkin
Robert Stallman and Edwin Swanborn
Isaac Stern with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra
Summermusik at Cheekwood
Christian Teal and Enid Katahn

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Box 9: 1976 – 1985 (*continued*)

Tel Aviv String Quartet
Tokyo String Quartet (Sarratt)
Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra at Carnegie Hall (with Leonard
Bernstein conducting)
The Vienna Quintet
Ragin Wenk and Kaare Ornung
Westminster (PA) College Choir

Playbills, publications and miscellaneous items include:

Façade an entertainment with poems by Edith Sitwell & Music by William Walton
George Peabody College Seminar in Piano Teaching Recital Series
Premiere Magazine, Fall 1980, Winter 1980-81 (with NSO series programs)
Metropolitan Opera National Council Mid-South Auditions
“Washington Square” presented by the Augusta Opera Company

International Concerts:

Familiengottesdienst zum Sommerfest 1977 (Gottingen), Nurnberg, Innsbruck
“Simon Boccanegra” at the Opera National/Theatre Royal de la Monnaie
(Directeur Maurice Huisman)
Societe Philharmonique de Bruxelles (Filharmonische Vereniging van Brussel)

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Box 10 – 1934 – 1985

Souvenir programs and other materials:

- 25th Anniversary Booklet [1935] on Neues Wiener Konservatorium
- Biography of Paganiniana, published by the Library of Congress, 1945
- Reprint of *Show Magazine*, March 1964
- Tour Program for All American Youth Orchestra (dir. by Leopold Stokowski), 1940
- 60th Anniversary Commemorative program for the Boston Symphony, 1941
- Robert Shaw Choral and String Ensemble Tour Program, c. 1952
- NDR Symphony Orchestra of Hamburg, 1962-63 tour program
- Vienna Choir Boys tour program, c. early 1960s
- A Tanglewood Dream*, 25th Anniversary Album, The Berkshire Music Center, 1965
- Booklet for Geigenbaumuseum Mittenwald-Bayern, date unknown
- Biography of Matthias Klotz von Mittenwald by Dr. Adolf Layer, 1970
- Schones Mittenwald tour booklet, likely 1970
- Brochure on the Pilcher Organ housed at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, Nashville, TN, date unknown
- The Claymont School for Continuous Education course catalog for AY 1979-80
- Claymont Communications Wholesale Book Catalog, 1979
- Duetscher Festspiesommer program, 1939 [**oversized storage**]